Supplementary Reference: 545
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Synopsis of Security Practices for Users

This brief synopsis of security practices for users of unclassified automated information systems (AISs) is provided to assist in understanding guidance provided in ADS 545. This document is not all-inclusive; for additional assistance on security matters relating to processing unclassified data, contact your Information System Security Officer (ISSO.)

1. Read, understand and implement/execute:

    a. AIS security policies.

    {Automated Directives System (ADS), State Department Guidance etc.}

    b. AIS security forms.

    {Authorized Access List, Fax Cover Sheet, USAID Computer System Access & Termination Request, USAID Sensitive Data Nondisclosure Agreement, USAID Unclassified Automated Information Systems Access Request Acknowledgement, Visitor's Log etc.}

2. Make your password(s) unique and hard to guess or "crack."

3. Use current anti-virus software to scan data (especially new data.)

4. Log off your workstation when you leave your area.

5. Back up your files.

6. Follow the Agency's rules of behavior; some user rules of behavior are:

    a. Access only data you are authorized to use:

        (1) Don't use or change any account, file, record, or application (software program) not required to perform your official duties or officially authorized activities.

        (2) Don't access someone else's account or files without formal authorization from your supervisor.

        (3) Remember not to access or disclose sensitive or personal data unless necessary to perform official duties.

b. Work with others to administer necessary safeguards and controls:

    (1) Cooperate with inspectors and evaluators.

    (2) Assist in completion of the automated information system certification/approval to operate process, and contingency planning for information resources.

    (3) Participate in AIS security training and awareness programs.

c. Be careful with AIS resources (software, hardware, communications means, etc.)

    (1) Don't move equipment or exchange components without authorization from the appropriate Information Technology (IT) Systems support element.

    (2) Protect AIS resources from physical hazards such as liquids, food, smoke, staples, paper clips, etc.

    (3) Don't install or use unauthorized software on AIS.

    (4) Comply with all software licensing agreements; don't violate Federal copyright laws.

    (5) Don't overload systems with extraneous matter (e.g., keep email attachments small, avoid excessive graphics on web pages, limit length of facsimile transmissions etc.)

7. Report AIS security incidents (see diagram on the next page.)

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                          ┌─────────────┐
                          │   Notice    │
IRM Security              │   From      │        Requester notifies either
Personnel                 │   Request   │        the Help Desk, or, if they
will investigate the      └─────────────┘        cannot contact the Help
incident and document                            Desk, IRM security of the
all relevant information.        │               possible incident.
Copies of the final        YES   ▼
Incident Report will        ◇ Emergency
be forwarded to the         ◇  action
USAID ISSO.                 ◇  needed?
Outside resources
will be used when                │  NO
needed.  IRM Security            ▼
will also notify the     ╱ USAID Help Desk ╲     Help Desk logs request
USAID ISSO and the      ╱  RRB: 202-712-    ╲    and forwards the
Office of Security.    ╱        1234          ╲   information

   ┌──────────────┐          │
   │ USAID IRM    │   YES     ▼            NO
   │ Security Team │◄──── ◇  Is    ◇ ──────►  ┌──────────────┐
   │ TAC Manager: │       ◇ this a ◇          │ Help Desk    │
   │ 703-465-7008 │       ◇ Security◇         │ procedures   │
   └──────────────┘       ◇ Incident?◇        │ followed.    │
          │                                    └──────────────┘
          ▼
   ╭──────────────╮    If
   │ Internal or  │
   │ External     │
   ╰──────────────╯      ┌──────────┐                     YES
      │        If external │ Internal │
      │                    │ Security │   ◇ Procedures ◇      ╭──────────────╮
      ▼                    │procedures│◄─►◇ Adequate?  ◇────►│ Write and file│
   ┌──────────┐            │ followed. │   ◇            ◇     │ Security      │
   │ Notify   │            └──────────┘                       ╰──────────────╯
   │appropriate│          ISSO informs USAID    NO
   │ entities. │          IRM Management of  ┌──────────────┐
   └──────────┘          incident activity.  │Update processes│
      │                                       └──────────────┘
   ┌──────┐  ┌──────┐                    USAID Office of Security (SEC) will
   │Other │  │Prime │  ╱ USAID ISSO ╲   conduct an investigation, either
   │resources│ │Mgmt.│ ╱              ╲  separately or in conjunction with
   │as    │  └──────┘                    IRM Security.  SEC will also
   │needed.│                             contact
   └──────┘        │                                    any outside
   ┌──────┐  ┌──────────┐  ┌──────────┐   ◯ Other ◯    agencies
   │ IRM  │  │ CIO &    │  │ USAID    │   ◯ Agencies◯  needed.
   │Directo│ │USAID ADM.│  │ SECUIRTY │──►◯ as      ◯
   └──────┘  └──────────┘  └──────────┘   ◯ needed. ◯
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